

## Registration

### Registration Fee

Register on-line at: <http://www.epaasm.org>  
then click on 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium to register.  
Zoom access and meeting ID will be available following registration.

### General Registration:

#### Pre-registration by Oct 29, 2021:

EPAASM Members \$50; Non-members \$75

#### Full registration after Oct 29, 2021:

Members \$75; Non-members \$100

### Students, Fellows, Residents

Pre-registration by Oct 29, 2021: \$25

Full registration after Oct 29, 2021: \$40

*(Letter with departmental letterhead verifying status as student fellow, or resident should be submitted on day of program)*

Upon receipt of your registration, an email confirmation notice will be sent. No refunds or cancellations after Oct 29, 2021

Information on EPAASM membership can be found on-line at: <http://www.epaasm.org> or by contacting Wilma Aponte (see below)

If you are registering and paying offline either individually or through your institution, please make checks payable to "Eastern PA Branch, ASM" and mail with a copy of your email registration confirmation to:

Wilma Aponte, Laboratory Coordinator  
Dept of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine  
St. Christopher's Hospital for Children  
160 East Erie Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19134-1095  
Tel: 215-427-6735  
Email: [wilma.aponte@towerhealth.org](mailto:wilma.aponte@towerhealth.org)

### Audience

This symposium will be of interest to clinical microbiologists, lab directors and supervisors, medical technologists, infectious diseases physicians, clinical pharmacists, public health professionals, infection prevention practitioners, as well as researchers working in related areas of infectious diseases.

### Continuing Education Credit

The EPAASM has applied for approval as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.® Program. Participants who successfully complete this program should be awarded 4.0 contact hours.

## Committee

### Co-Chairs

#### Alan Evangelista, PhD, D(ABMM)

St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

#### Matthew Pettengill, PhD, D(ABMM)

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA

#### Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD, D(ABMM)

Hosp of Univ of Penn, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

### Committee Members

#### Jean Buchenhorst, MS

Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, PA

#### Daniel Lindao, MS

Main Line Health Laboratories, Wynnewood, PA

#### Rebecca M. Harris, MD

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Phila, PA

#### Joseph Kontra, MD

Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, PA

#### Linda A. Miller, PhD

CMID Pharma Consulting, Dresher, PA

#### Irving Nachamkin, DrPH, MPH, D(ABMM)

Hosp of Univ of Penn, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

#### Fabienne Paumet, PhD

Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA

#### James Poupard, PhD

Pharma Institute of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA

#### Vincent Tam, PhD

Lewis Katz School of Medicine of Temple University Philadelphia, PA

#### Ad Hoc, Pres. EPAASM: Michele Kutzler, PhD

Drexel University College of Med, Philadelphia, PA

## 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium

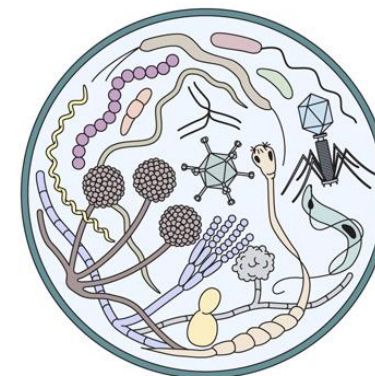
*Presented by*

**Eastern Pennsylvania Branch  
of the American Society  
for Microbiology**

## 50 Year Historic Lookback and the View Ahead for Novel Diagnostics

**Friday, November 5, 2021**

**Virtual  
Zoom Meeting**



# 50 Year Historic Lookback and the View Ahead for Novel Diagnostics: Friday, Nov 5, 2021

## Description

The Eastern Pennsylvania Branch of the American Society for Microbiology will sponsor the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium as a Virtual Zoom Meeting. This intermediate to advanced level program will provide a 50-year lookback at previous EPAASM symposia and feature presenters working to advance diagnostics into the future. This program will review the use of various blood culture technologies, and the use of high-throughput sequencing for infectious disease diagnostics and epidemiology through lectures on specific use cases. The program will also focus on non-molecular technologies, including biomarkers, rapid phenotypic susceptibility testing, and artificial intelligence. Case presentations will illustrate practical uses of molecular testing. In addition, the program will include an opportunity to visit exhibitors in Zoom breakout rooms.

## Objectives

At the conclusion of this symposium, participants will be able to:

- ❖ Identify the key historic topics presented over the past 50 years of EPAASM Symposia.
- ❖ Review the progression of blood culture methods including automation, direct disk testing, PCR, and direct sequencing of blood.
- ❖ Evaluate the use of high-throughput (NGS) sequencing in respiratory samples, CSF, and for detection of SARS CoV-2 variants.
- ❖ Review specific examples of molecular diagnostics as illustrated in case presentations.
- ❖ Discuss the use of biomarkers for infectious disease diagnostics.
- ❖ Understand the developing role of artificial intelligence in microbiology.

## Session I: Morning

**8:15-8:30am:** Welcome and Introduction.

*Symposium Co-Chair: Alan Evangelista, PhD*  
*EPAASM President: Michele Kutzler, PhD*

---

Moderator: Alan Evangelista, PhD, D(ABMM)

**8:30-9:00am Keynote:** 50-year historic lookback at previous EPAASM symposia.

*James A. Poupard, PhD, Pharma Institute of Philadelphia, Philadelphia PA*

**9:00-9:30am:** An update on the use of sepsis biomarkers including procalcitonin, C-reactive protein, and calprotectin.

*Kevin J. Downes, MD, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA*

**9:30-10:00am:** Evolution of bacteremia diagnostics: from blood culture automation to direct detection in blood.

*Thomas J. Kirn, MD, PhD, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ*

**10:00-11:15am:** Break to Visit Zoom Virtual Exhibit Breakout Rooms

---

Moderator: Matthew Pettengill, PhD, D(ABMM)

**11:15am-12:00pm:** 3 case presentations using molecular diagnostics.

- 1) *Matthew A. Pettengill, PhD, Thomas Jefferson Univ Hosp, Sidney Kimmel Med Coll of Thomas Jefferson Univ, Phila, PA*
- 2) *Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD, Hospital of University of Penn, Perelman School of Medicine, Univ of Penn, Phila, PA*
- 3) *Alan T. Evangelista, PhD, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Drexel University College of Medicine, Phila, PA.*

**12:00-12:30pm:** Use of direct next generation sequencing for detection of clinical pathogens.

*Erin H. Graf, PhD, D(ABMM), Mayo Clinic Arizona, Phoenix, AZ*

**12:30-1:45pm:** Lunch Break and Visit Zoom Virtual Exhibit Breakout Rooms

## Session II: Afternoon

---

Moderator: Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD, D(ABMM)

**1:45-2:15pm:** Use of CSF metagenomic next generation sequencing (NGS) for direct pathogen detection for meningitis/encephalitis.

*Kyle G. Rodino, PhD, D(ABMM), Hospital of University of Penn, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA*

**2:15-2:45pm:** Evolving epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 variants and their impact on patient outcomes.

*Brendan J. Kelly, MD, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA*

**2:45-3:15pm:** Use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the clinical microbiology laboratory.

*Daniel Rhoads, MD, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH*

**3:15-3:30pm:** Closing Remarks and Evaluations

*Symposium Co-Chairs: Alan Evangelista, PhD, Matthew Pettengill, PhD, Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD*

***Attendees will have the opportunity to ask the speakers questions after each lecture.***

